



Public Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2016
5:30-7:30 P.M.

San Jacinto River Authority Offices
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, TX

Attendance

There were 24 people in attendance, in addition to H-GAC and TCEQ project staff.

The meeting commenced at approximately 5:35 PM.

- I) **Welcome** - *Justin Bower, Houston-Galveston Area Council*
- II) **Project Recap** – Justin welcomed the attendees and gave a brief recap on the purpose and status of the WPP project, and the agenda for the current meeting.
- III) **Partnership Business** – Project staff discussed the following items with the stakeholders prior to the main business of the meeting:
 - a. Partner Announcements –
 - i. 10/22 – The Lake Creek Greenway Preserve will hold an open house at the preserve starting at 10 AM to introduce people to the preserve and discuss its future.
 - ii. 11/3 – Region H Water Planning Group will meet at 10 AM at SJRA offices to discuss regional water supply planning.
 - iii. 11/3 – The Basin and Bay Area Expert Science Team (BBEST) will meet following Region H at SJRA (~12PM)
 - iv. Inlet marking – SJRA is expanding stormwater inlet marking to the project area and is looking for sites volunteers, who should contact Shane Simpson.
 - v. 11 5 – H-GAC will present a Texas Stream Team volunteer monitoring training at 8203 Millennium Forest Drive in the Woodlands.
 - vi. 10/12 – BPA will hold its annual Symposium at the United Way facility on Waugh Drive in Houston.
 - b. Stakeholder representation needs – Justin briefly described efforts to ensure stakeholder representation for all interests. Of specific interest was the addition of a representative from the Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District.
 - c. Work Groups – Just explained the use of Work Groups, and recommended a preliminary set of work group topics (based on bacteria sources currently) with meetings to be scheduled for November.
- IV) **Bacteria Sources** – Justin described the process by which the project will identify and locate sources of fecal bacteria, including:

- a. **Source Survey** – The stakeholders participated in a discussion of potential sources of bacteria in the watershed. Briefly, agriculture, human waste (WWTFs and septic systems), wildlife, pet waste, illegal dumping, and feral hogs were all identified as valid sources to explore. Recreational sources from boater waste and large bathing beaches were not indicated as likely sources in the watershed. The participants discussed various issues and specific sites for each source, with H-GAC to follow up on many items for more information.
- b. **Modeling** – H-GAC described the SELECT modeling process that will help identify the amount and relative contribution by source of bacteria in the watershed, which will be refined with work groups, and presented at the December meeting. Stakeholders will refine as needed to match local conditions. This information will inform future decisions on solutions.
- c. **Other Pollutants** – Bacteria will be the first issue tackled, but future meetings will plan to deal with sediment load, nutrients, trash, and other stakeholder concerns.

V) **Next Steps** – H-GAC will schedule Work Group Meetings in November, and present recommendations in December.

VI) **Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30, while informal discussion continued after the end of the meeting.

Copies of all presentations and documents referenced in these minutes or provided at the meeting can be found online at www.westforkwpp.com under the Project Documents tab. Documents will be made available prior to the meeting, and presentations and minutes are made available after the meeting.

